

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A business application generation system for automatically generating a business software application, comprising:
 - a central processing unit;
 - a repository ~~containing~~ comprising a set of meta data, said set of meta data comprising structured information on a business process, said structured information comprising information on functions operating on business process data;
 - a generation tool comprising a first tool and a second tool, said first tool being a meta data dependent passer element and said second tool being a meta data independent generating element, said generation tool generating, based on at least said set of meta data in said repository, a customized business process application for said business process; andinput/output means for treating said set of meta data in said repository and for invoking said generation tool, said input/output means being a workbench enabling ~~editing customization~~ to generate customized meta data in said repository, wherein:
 - said workbench enables an invocation of said generation tool by initiating an import of ~~said set of customized~~ customized meta data into said passer element,
 - said passer element ~~handles, interprets, and processes~~ handles said ~~set of customized~~ customized meta data for input to said generating element, ~~said handling, interpreting, and processing~~ said handling, interpreting, and processing comprising:

interpreting a semantical content of said
customized meta data; and
translating said semantical content of said
customized meta data into customized
business process data for input into said
generating element; and

said generating element generates, on the basis of said-set
of processed meta data input, program code for said
customized business process application;
~~said set of meta data containing structured business process~~
~~application information comprising information on~~
~~functions operating on business data; and~~
~~said generation tool retrieving data from said repository and,~~
~~on the basis of said retrieved repository data,~~
~~generating a customized business process~~
application.

2. (Cancelled).
3. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said set of meta data in said repository consists of data base tables containing meta data entities.

4. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 3, wherein said meta data entities contain information on ~~the an~~ an identification of ~~an application to be generated~~ said customized business process application, on object types and on object structures.
5. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 4, wherein said object types contain information on ~~the said~~ said business process data to be processed by ~~the said customized business process application to be generated~~ and on said functions operating on said business process data.
6. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said business process is a billing process.
7. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said business process is a bonus payment process.
8. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said business process is a commission payment process.
9. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said customization enabled at said workbench enables comprises at least one of viewing, creating, adding, deleting, changing, and inheriting said repository meta data.
- 10.-11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said generating element further generates data objects for said customized business process application.
13. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein said generating element further generates a data base for said customized business process application.
14. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for generating a business software application, comprising the steps, performed by a computer, of:
- providing a set of meta data ~~containing~~ comprising structured information ~~on the a business process data to be processed by the application to be generated and, said structured information comprising~~ information on functions operating on ~~said~~ business process data;
 - customizing said set of meta data via an input/output means before said meta data is imported into a generation tool, said generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element for generating a customized business software application;
 - importing said ~~set of~~ customized meta data comprising information on functions into said passer element of said generation tool;
 - ~~handling, interpreting, and processing said set of~~ customized meta data imported into said generation tool in said meta data dependent passer element, wherein said processing comprises:
 - interpreting a semantical content of said customized meta data; and

translating said semantical content of said customized meta
data into customized business process data for input
into said generating element; and

~~inputting said set of processed meta data after processing in said passer
element into said generating element.~~

15.-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to~~ of claim [[16]] 14, further comprising generating program code for said customized business process application on the basis of said processed meta data input.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium, the computer readable storage medium comprising storing instructions that, when executed by a processor, perform a method for carrying out a method for generating a business software application, the method comprising steps, performed by the processor, of:

customizing a set of meta data comprising information on functions via an input/output means before said meta data is imported into a generation tool, said generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element;

~~importing said set of customized meta data into said passer element of~~
said generation tool; and

on the basis of said set of meta data, processing said customized meta data in said passer element, inputting said processed meta data in

said generating element, and generating a customized business software application based on said processed metadata, wherein said processing comprises:

interpreting a semantical content of said customized meta data; and

translating said semantical content of said customized meta data into customized business process data for input into said generating element.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) A business application generation system for automatically adapting a business software application, comprising:

a central processing unit;

a repository ~~containing~~ comprising a set of meta data, said set of meta data comprising structured information on an existing business process and on functions operating on data of said existing business process;

a generation tool comprising a first tool and a second tool, said first tool being a meta data dependent passer element and said second tool being a meta data independent generating element, said generation tool generating, based on at least said set of meta data in said repository, a customized adapted version of an existing business process application; and

input/output means for treating said set of meta data in said repository and for invoking said generation tool, said input/output means being a

workbench enabling ~~editing customization~~ of said ~~set of~~ meta data
to generate customized meta data in said repository, wherein:

said workbench enables an invocation of said generation
tool by initiating an import of said ~~set of~~ customized
meta data into said passer element[[.]];

said passer element ~~handles, interprets, and processes~~ said
set of customized meta data for input to said
generating element, said ~~handling, interpreting, and~~
processing comprising:

interpreting a semantical content of said
customized meta data; and

translating said semantical content of said
customized meta data into customized
business process data for input into said
generating element; and

said generating element generates, on the basis of said set
of processed meta data ~~input~~, program code for said
customized adapted version of said existing business
process application; and

said ~~set of~~ meta data containing structured business ~~process~~
application information comprising information on
functions operating on business data; and

said ~~generation tool~~ retrieving data from said repository and,
on the basis of said ~~retrieved repository data~~,
generating a customized adapted version of an
existing business process application.

21. (Cancelled).
22. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 20, wherein said set of meta data in said repository consists of data base tables containing meta data entities.
23. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 22, wherein said meta data entities contain information on ~~the an~~ an identification of an said customized adapted version of said existing business application ~~to be generated~~, on object types, and on object structures.
24. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 23, wherein said object types contain information on ~~the~~ said business process data ~~to be processed by the application to be generated~~ and on functions operating on said business process data.
25. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 20, wherein said existing business process is a billing process.
26. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 20, wherein said existing business process is a bonus payment process.
27. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 20, wherein said existing business process is a commission payment process.

28. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 20, wherein said customization enabled at said workbench enables ~~comprises~~ at least one of viewing, creating, adding, deleting, changing, and inheriting said repository meta data.
29. (Cancelled).
30. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 20, wherein said generating element generates, on the basis of said processed meta data input, program code for said customized adapted version of said existing business process application.
31. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 30, wherein said generating element further generates data objects for said customized adapted version of said existing business process application.
32. (Currently Amended) The system ~~according to~~ of claim 30, wherein said generating element further generates a data base for said customized adapted version of said existing business process application.
33. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for generating an adapted business software application, comprising the steps, executed by a computer, of:
providing a set of meta data ~~containing~~ comprising structured information
on the a business process data ~~to be processed by the adapted~~
~~application to be generated and, said structured information~~

comprising information on functions operating on said business process data;

customizing said set of meta data via an input/output means before said meta data is imported into a generation tool, said generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element for generating a customized adapted business software application;

importing said ~~set of~~ customized meta data comprising information on functions into said passer element of said generation tool;

~~handling, interpreting, and processing~~ said ~~set of~~ customized meta data imported into said generation tool in said passer element, wherein said processing comprises:

interpreting a semantical content of said customized meta data; and

translating said semantical content of said customized meta data into customized business process data for input into said generating element; and

inputting said ~~set of~~ processed meta data ~~after processing in said passer element~~ into said generating element.

34-35. (Cancelled).

36. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to~~ of claim 33, further comprising the ~~step of~~ generating program code for said customized adapted business process application on the basis of said processed meta data input.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium, the computer readable storage medium comprising storing instructions that, when executed by a processor, perform ~~for carrying out~~ a method for generating an adapted business software application, the method comprising the steps, performed by a processor, of:

customizing a set of meta data via an input/output means before said meta data is imported into a generation tool, said generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element;

importing said ~~set of~~ customized meta data into said meta data dependent passer element of said generation tool; and

on the basis of said set of meta data, processing said customized meta data in said passer element, inputting said processed meta data in said generating element, and generating a customized adapted business software application based on said processed meta data, wherein said processing comprises:

interpreting a semantical content of said customized meta data; and

translating said semantical content of said customized meta data into customized business process data for input into said generating element.

38. (Cancelled).